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Amendment to Claims

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 - 9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) A sunscreen composition comprising avobenzone, zinc oxide in an amount from about 6 to about 25 weight percent and sufficient phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid to stabilize the avobenzone against photodegradation, wherein the composition does not contain a diester or polyester of a naphthalene dicarboxylic acid.

11. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 10, wherein the concentration of avobenzone is about 1 to about 3 weight percent, and the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 0.5 to about 4 weight percent.

12-14. (Canceled)

15. (Original) A method for protecting the skin against ultraviolet radiation, comprising applying to the skin an effective amount of the composition of claim 10.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for protecting the skin against ultraviolet radiation, comprising applying to the skin an effective amount of the composition of claim 11.

17. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 10, wherein the concentration of zinc oxide is about 10 weight percent.

18. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 10, wherein the concentration of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 1 weight percent.

19. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 10, which is in the form of an emulsion.

20. (Previously Presented) The composition of claim 19, wherein the emulsion is an oil-in-water emulsion.

21. (Currently Amended) A method for increasing the SPF value of a sunscreen composition comprising avobenzone and zinc oxide, wherein zinc oxide is present in the composition in an amount of about 6 to about 25 weight percent, the method comprising adding to the composition an amount of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid sufficient to photostabilize avobenzone, thereby increasing the SPF value, wherein the composition does not contain a diester or polyester of a naphthalene dicarboxylic acid.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein zinc oxide is present in the composition in an amount of about 10 weight percent.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the amount of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 1 weight percent.

24. (Currently Amended) A method for improving the photostability of avobenzone in a composition comprising avobenzone and zinc oxide, wherein zinc oxide is present in the composition in an amount of about 6 to about 25 weight percent, the method comprising adding to the composition an amount of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid sufficient to photostabilize avobenzone, wherein the composition does not contain a diester or polyester of a naphthalene dicarboxylic acid.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein zinc oxide is present in the composition in an amount of about 10 weight percent.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 22 wherein the amount of phenylbenzimidazole sulfonic acid is about 1 weight percent.